

VIRGINIA EDITORS; WHAT THEY THINK

Sermon—Editorial.

Here we have from the Farmville Herald a kind of combination sermon-editorial:

A religious contemporary says: "Borrowing money on church property is not always an easy thing, and for two reasons. One is that it is a peculiarly ungracious thing to do, and the other is that there are very few people who want to buy a church. One may have to wait a long time before a church is found, and usually a few men in the church have to become personally responsible, and that is the better way. A genuine church is given. The best way is not to have any debts at all."

Now, here is a sad confession, that a "few men" in the church, whose personal honor is involved are more honest than the entire membership. For one time the part is greater than the whole. We remember not longer since sitting in a handsome church building which we knew had not been paid for, and listening to a scathing sermon on the general subject of debt paying, in which the minister literally roasted the fellow who had on a new Sunday suit which had not been settled for, and we could but be astonished at the complacency with which the D. D. occupied the elegant pulpit and looked upon the luxurious environment around him which had been paid for, and could have the cheek to condemn the one man, perhaps, not a member of the church, and let the whole body go free.

Unlucky Soldier.

According to the Staunton News, only one soldier boy in that town lost his job by being a soldier. It says:

As far as we have been able to learn, only one soldier lost his position because of his duty to his State when sorely needed. We are sorry—extremely sorry—that there was even one, and it is to be hoped that the firm who gave him his discharge will reconsider the matter. We know that it is hard to do without an assistant for a month, or even a week, but we all have hardships to contend with. The strike affected the whole State, more or less, and as it was avoided, so far as we know, every one should willingly and cheerfully help bear the burden.

Many of our local merchants and other business men had to suffer, but they did so in silence, well-knowing that the men who were called to Richmond, were called to perform a paramount duty—a duty which could be neither excused nor avoided, and they made no complaint. We honor them for their patriotism, and regret the single exception.

A Rockbridge Story.

The Spirit of the Valley tells this story: A good story comes from Rockbridge county, and is as good as the wit of anybody's sense of humor. A farmer living in the Natural Bridge District had his fields visited daily by several women in quest of berries. He was an unmarried man and, according to the author of the story, caused to be arrested and taken to court and marry the first woman caught in his fields on or after a certain day. When the date rolled around, and the woman did not appear, he was astonished to see a brigade of women berry-pickers. They were so numerous that he did not single out one of them, though every eye and condition was represented. He was too embarrassed to single one out, and was entitled to share his joys and woes.

The Virginia Building.

The Fredericksburg Free Lance wants us to be up and doing. It says: The Legislature has done all possible in appropriating fifty thousands dollars for the exhibit itself and it now rests with the people of this State to show their ability by raising the amount needed for the Virginia building. It might be a good idea, and we make no suggestion as to the amount, but we think a communication be sent to the Board of Trade or Business Men's Association of each city and county asking them to cooperate in raising funds and at the same time to contribute whatever can be spared from their own pockets. We feel sure that in this way a large amount of money can be raised. In the meantime let us all determine on helping the commission to the extent of our abilities in its laudable effort to have a Virginia building.

Better Things.

The Shenandoah Herald makes this plea:

The foundation of liberty in a Republic form of government is based upon the integrity of the ballot. No citizen should be considered too great if it results in restoring to the ballot its purity. No better opportunity has ever been known than that which the coming elections will give. Let every good citizen determine that he should have an election as pure and as honest as were the viva voce elections in ante-bellum days. It can be accomplished and we are glad to see that many of our people are determined that it shall be. Success to every effort whose object is to guard the purity and sacredness of the ballot.

A Hopeful Sign.

The Buchanan Banner furnishes this gratifying information: The action of the grand jury at the last term of the court in finding a verdict of acquittal for cruelty to animals, is a hopeful sign. So far as we know it is the first instance in this country where a grand jury has found a verdict of acquittal for cruelty to animals, and it is to be hoped it shows an awakening of sympathy for poor dumb brutes that are so often the victims of the cruelty of man. We are glad to see that all those who seem to have no feeling of pity for the sufferings of animals.

The justness of the peace should take note of what the grand jury has done, and follow its example. By the way, it has become of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which some time ago, it was said, would be organized.

A Mistake.

The Gordonsville Gazette says: We suppose that no sane man doubts that a temperance tidal wave has set our way, and though it may not reach us in its full force for a short time, yet it is coming, and will sweep before it every sort of opposition. It is, therefore, in our judgment, a great mistake for the liquor people to make their bed in the fire, and to fight the cause of temperance and by the same rule harming the cause of temperance.

We are not offering advice—not by any means—but it seems to us the very height of folly for these people to be venting their spite on those who honestly differ from them.

The Crosses County.

According to the Louisa Enterprise old Louisa may be put down as the crossiest county. It says:

Old Louisa is destined to become the banner county of the Piedmont. It is a Virginia, her diversified soil adaptable to so many different crops. She is well watered and her waterpower is known to be great and is practically unused as yet. Her forests furnish employment for many of her people, and the enormous output of crossstaves annually amounts to thousands of dollars. Their supply is apparently inexhaustible; it was prophesied a score of years ago that in the future there would be no more crossstaves, and we all know what a mistaken prophecy that has been, "The cry is still there."

Northampton Shows Men.

The Eastern Shore Herald says: It is pleasant to see the younger men coming to the front in old Northampton. It gives life and zest to politics, and awakens interest in public matters. Any county is in a fortunate condition when

its good citizens awaken to a lively interest in matters looking to the public weal, and discuss the merits of the individual claimants to office. Where offices pass, as it were, by inheritance to some man who measures his talent by his political skill or his bar, then a sad state of affairs exists, one that we hope will never be Northampton's fate.

Politics and Camp-Meetings.

This is from the Potomac Progress: With the assembling of the approach to camp-meetings the politician is getting ready to multiply himself. During a political campaign we notice that the big-hearted, liberal-promising men are much oftener seen and heard than on other occasions. We are not about to explain why it is so, but an ordinary man more frequently meets with cordial greetings and a dozen little courtesies forced upon him to every one that is offered at other times.

Com's Fight.

The Clarion Herald declares: There is no question at all but that the liquor element will make a strong effort to carry the next Legislature in order to amend the Mann bill renewed or amended. The Anti-Saloon League of this legislative district will shortly make a demand on the several candidates for the body, and if the report is not satisfactory a dry candidate will be put forth.

Well: What About It?

Will: Culpeper Exponent says: Will the iron-clad resolutions, pure election law, rules, regulations, restrictions and prohibitions promulgated by the Democratic County Committee for the exclusion of money and whiskey from participation in the Democratic primary of August 15th be of any help? For a long time we have been anxious reader to the scenes upon the main street of Culpeper on Monday evening last, and upon the various country roads leading out of the town on Monday evening and far into Monday night last, and running over into Tuesday morning.

WINCHESTER GERMAN

Several Hundred Young People Dance the Hours Away—Pretty Reception

WINCHESTER, VA., August 1.—The most successful german of the season was the one given last Tuesday evening at the Rouss Hall, in which several hundred young people participated. Mr. W. Davis Conrad led the german and he successfully conducted the dances through the intricate figures. Mr. Conrad danced with Miss Helen Savage, a very attractive young lady from the town of Winchester, who is now the guest of the Messrs. McGuire. Other guests from a distance were Miss Vida McCormick, Miss Portia Baldwin, Miss Elizabeth Thompson, of Summit Point, W. Va.; Miss Worthington, Miss Marie Williams, of Washington; Miss Helen and Mary Wylie, of Baltimore; Miss Virginia Woten, of Georgetown; Messrs. Paul Thompson, of Torrey, Md.; John Holmer, of Allen, of Summit Point; Joseph Moore, Keith Briggs, of Berryville; Coleman Robinson, of Louisville, Ky.; Dr. James I. Russell, of New York.

Several hundred guests, including many from a distance, attended the reception at Miss Sherrard's residence, on Amherst Street, Wednesday evening. The event was in honor of Miss Helen Ames, of Boston, who was given by Mrs. M. S. Donaldson, mother of Mrs. Ames, music was furnished by a full orchestra and a temporary dancing platform had been erected upon the roof of the building. Some parlors that had also been specially prepared and illuminated.

Mrs. Donaldson, who spends the greater part of her time in Winchester, for the benefit of her health, is highly esteemed and has a large circle of acquaintances.

WAVED CONFED. FLAG OVER NORTHERN GUESTS

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FARMVILLE, VA., August 1.—R. D. Miller, Town Sergeant of Farmville, is perhaps the most successful of the confederate of all the living confederates. He married a Pennsylvania girl, too, and has made of her about as much of a "Reb" as he himself is, and as for the children, the late general Edgewood says he has never seen a more Northern friends to dine with him and before taking their seats at the table he said to them, "We have a custom in this home, the observance of which I hope that you will be so good as to observe. That is that we are religiously obliged to conform to it. Before beginning the meal I always wave this old battle-scarred Confederate banner above our heads, and here and there, and with that he lifted the old flag reverently and waved it more than once over the well-spread table. It was a new experience with the Northern guests, but they then proceeded to relate to the full that typical Southern Virginia dinner. 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